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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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6. Local Soviets who wish to leave Tientsin must be in possession of a valid Soviet residence certificate,**** and the Chinese authorities will not permit them to leave unless they are members of the SCA. Papers can be cleared also through the local office of the International Refugee Organization (IRO), which is headed by Victor S. Bazeos,***** a Greek; it is at 151 Chieh Fang Pei Lu. This office can give to persons whose papers are not in order a document certifying that they are bona fide refugees from Russia, that they are registered with IRO, and that they are eligible for refugee status under United Nations regulations.*****

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* [REDACTED] Comment. This number probably includes both Soviets from the USSR and local Soviets.

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** [REDACTED] Comment. This term is applied to emigres who have obtained Soviet passports in China or elsewhere outside the USSR, as distinguished from Soviet citizens from the USSR.

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*** [REDACTED] Comment. A. A. Rachkovski has been an official in this association since 1945.

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**** [REDACTED] Comment. This evidently refers to the "vid na zhitelstvo", issued only to new Soviet citizens outside the USSR. The Chinese require a clearance from the SCA and a de-registration stamp from the Soviet consulate in the case of all Soviet citizens leaving the area.

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***** [REDACTED] Comment. Bazeos (also spelled Baseos and Baseus) has held this position since 1948. He has always been associated with the Soviet elements of the foreign community in Tientsin and has been suspected of acting as a Soviet agent.

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***** [REDACTED] Comment. Among Soviets in Tientsin, going to the IRO office is considered a great risk, and persons with IRO papers are considered undesirable by the Soviet consulate and subject to prosecution by the Chinese Communists.